

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (ORIGINAL) Use of a glutathione-increasing compound and a nitric oxide increasing compound in the manufacture of a medicament useful in the treatment of insulin resistance.
2. (ORIGINAL) Use of a glutathione-increasing compound and a nitric oxide-increasing compound in improving glucose uptake in a patient suffering from insulin resistance.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Use of claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the insulin resistance is hepatic insulin sensitizing substance (“HISS”)-dependent insulin resistance.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Use of claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (“OTC”), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, and S-adenosylmethionine (“S-AMe”).
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Use of claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~ wherein the nitric oxide-increasing compound is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.
6. (ORIGINAL) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a hepatic glutathione increasing compound and a hepatic nitric oxide-increasing compound.

7. (ORIGINAL) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one of nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 ~~or 7~~ further including a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.
9. (ORIGINAL) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels, said method comprising:
selecting a patient suffering from insulin resistance;
determining if hepatic glutathione levels are lower than normal in the patient; and
administering a compound which increases hepatic glutathione and a compound which increases hepatic nitric oxide.
10. (ORIGINAL) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient comprising administering a compound which increases hepatic glutathione and a compound which increases hepatic nitric oxide ("NO").
11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composition of claim 6, ~~7 or 8~~ further including a pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance.
12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein the insulin resistance is HISS-dependent insulin resistance ("HDIR").
13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12 wherein the hepatic glutathione-increasing compound administered causes an increase in hepatic glutathione synthesis.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 10,~~11 or 12~~ wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate ("OTC"), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, and S-adenosylmethionine ("SAMe").

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 10,~~11, 12, 13 or 14~~ wherein the nitric oxide-increasing compound is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is administered orally.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is administered by intravenous injection.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is 8-bromo-cGMP.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the compound which increases hepatic NO is administered orally.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the compound which increases hepatic NO is administered by intravenous injection.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the compound which increases nitric oxide is SIN-1.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the compound which increases hepatic NO is molsidamine.
23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 further including administering a pharmaceutically acceptable anti-oxidant.
24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the patient suffers from at least one of non-insulin dependent diabetes, essential hypertension, metabolic obesity, chronic liver disease, fetal alcohol effects, old age and a chronic inflammatory disease.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the patient is a human.
26. (NEW) Use of claim 2 wherein the insulin resistance is hepatic insulin sensitizing substance ("HISS")-dependent insulin resistance.
27. (NEW) Use of claim 2 wherein the glutathione-increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate ("OTC"), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, and S-adenosylmethionine ("SAmE").
28. (NEW) Use of claim 2 wherein the nitric oxide-increasing compound is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxylate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.
29. (NEW) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 further including a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

30. (NEW) The composition of claim 7 further including a pharmaceutically acceptable liver-targeting substance.